



USDA BROILER MARKET NEWS REPORT

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NATIONAL BROILER MARKET-AT-A-GLANCE



Trade sentiment was steady to fully steady in the West, fully steady to firm elsewhere. Retail demand was light to moderate, at times good for ads. Food service was slow to moderate. Supplies were balanced to well cleared for trade needs. In the parts structure, trading was fair to active. Availability of all parts was no more than adequate with breast items in the tightest position and wings close. In production areas, live supplies were mostly moderate at desirable to light, mostly desirable weights.

GEORGIA F.O.B. DOCK PRICES The Georgia f.o.b. dock quoted price on broilers/fryers for next week's trading advanced .50 cents to 70.00 cents based on full truck load lots of ice-packed USDA grade "A" sized 2 1/2 to 3 pound birds. This compares to 62.25 cents last year on January 22, 2003.

Georgia f.o.b. dock quoted prices on ice-packed parts for next week's trading.

ITEM	DOCK PRICE (CENTS PER POUND)
LINE RUN TENDERS	205.00
BREASTS - B/S	178.50
BREASTS - WHOLE	94.00
THIGH MEAT - B/S	95.50
LEG QUARTERS	33.00
WINGS	115.50

This information is supplied by the Georgia Department of Agriculture's Poultry Market News Service.

SOUTHERN Trade sentiment was at least steady to firm. Demand was fair to moderate, strongest where retail features and promotions were active. Supplies were sufficient to well cleared for trade needs. In the parts structure, trading was moderate to good with retail and further processing needs boosting interest. Breast items were close to short and continued to move at premium levels. Wings were adequate to barely adequate and clearing, and dark meat was no more than adequate with demand increasing for export needs. In production areas, live supplies were fair to moderate. Weights were desirable to light.

NORTHEAST Trucklot buying interest on ready-to-cook whole broiler/fryers was fair to moderate during midweek trading as dealers adopted a more cautious and unaggressive posture. Offerings of all sizes ranged balanced to adequate for current needs. Movement through retail and distributive channels was moderate at best. The market tone was fully steady. In the parts complex, breast items were short of full needs and continued to command premiums. Dark meat cuts were adequate to balanced. Wings were closely cleared.

MIDWEST Whole fryer trade sentiment continues fully steady to firm. Offers of whole birds and wogs were limited for the selective buyers needs. Demand into retail channels was light to moderate with reports of price resistance. Retail feature in Chicago on leg quarters at 39 cents and split breast at 99 cents. Food service movement was slow to moderate with fast food outlets noted as providing the least activity. Floor stocks were in close balance to fully adequate. Weights desirable. Supplies of all parts items were close to tight. Trade sentiment was firm on wings, fully steady to firm on balance of parts.

WESTERN The market tone was steady to fully steady. Offerings were adequate overall. Buying activity was moderate. Retailer demand was good overall best to cover features. Floor stocks adequate. Trade sentiment was steady to firm on parts with white meat items in the strongest position.

CHICK PLACEMENT AND EGG SET TOTAL

<u>PRODUCTION AND SOCIETY FOR</u>			<u>PERCENT CHANGE</u>
19 STATES			
WEEK ENDING 01/17/04	<u>2004</u>	<u>2003</u>	<u>PREVIOUS YEAR</u>
EGGS SET	207,059	202,802	+02
CHICKS PLACED	166,475	163,604	+02

Broiler Eggs Set In 19 Selected States Up 2 Percent

Commercial hatcheries in the 19-State weekly program set 207 million eggs in incubators during the week ending January 17, 2004. This was up 2 percent from the eggs set the corresponding week a year earlier. Average hatchability for chicks hatched during the week was 82 percent. Average hatchability is calculated by dividing chicks hatched during the week by eggs set three weeks earlier.

Broiler Chicks Placed Up 2 Percent

Broiler growers in the 19-State weekly program placed 166 million chicks for meat production during the week ending January 17, 2004. Placements were up 2 percent from the comparable week a year earlier. Cumulative placements from December 28, 2003 through January 17, 2004 were 502 million, up 2 percent from the same period a year earlier.

WEEKLY FRYERS AVAILABLE FOR MARKETING

Based on the preliminary chick placements, the number of fryers available for the marketing during the week ending 27-Feb-04 is estimated at 153.7 million head. This compares to 154.4 million head the previous week and to 153.4 million head the same week a year ago, when the slaughter was 150.2 million head and the composite weighted average price 60.38 cents per pound.

SOUTHERN STATES BROILER/FRYER PARTS

F.O.B. DOCK OR EQUIVALENT, ICED-PACKED, PRICES SHOWN ARE DAY OF SHIPMENT (INCLUDES CURRENT AND PRIOR NEGOTIATIONS), TRUCKLOT AND LESS THAN TRUCKLOT VOLUME, CENTS PER POUND.

POUNDS

ITEM	(000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG
BREAST - B/S	887	158.00-245.00	164-169	172.44
TENDERLOINS	178	157.00-218.00	158-161	166.54
BREAST - LINE RUN	108	91.00-98.00	94-96	93.22
FRONT HALVES		TOO FEW TO REPORT		
LEGS	88	41.00-52.00	41-42	42.00
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	563	28.00-30.00	28-30	28.51
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	1,098	32.00-35.00	32-33	32.47
WINGS (WHOLE)	295	114.00-120.00	-	114.71
WINGS (CUT)	367	127.00-138.00	130-135	130.45
DRUMSTICKS		TOO FEW TO REPORT		
THIGHS		TOO FEW TO REPORT		
B/S THIGHS	80	94.00-101.00	-	95.75

WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS TRADING FOR JANUARY 21, 2004 — F.O.B. DOCK.

RANGE	TODAY'S AVERAGE	5-DAY AVERAGE
58.50 - 63.00	59.92	59.21

The Index is intended solely as an indicator of values for commodity-type product and does not represent industry's willingness to sell or ability to buy.

NORTHEAST BROILER/FRYER PARTS

Trucklot buying activity was fair to moderate during midweek trading. Offerings of breast items were tight and commanding premiums. Dark meat cuts were adequate to balanced. Wings continued clearing well. Movement through retail channels was fair to moderate, distributive draw was about fair. The market tone remained fully steady to firm on breast items and fully steady on the balance.

ICE PACKED BROILER/FRYER PARTS, DELIVERED TO FIRST RECEIVERS IN POOL TRUCKLOT AND TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES, CENTS PER POUND

ITEM	CURRENT NEGOTIATED TRADING*	WTD AVG**	VOLUME /LBS
BREAST - B/S	170-175	164.26	581,200
TENDERLOINS	155-160	155.25	127,570
BREAST - WITH RIBS	90-91	95.58	128,000
BREAST - LINE RUN	90	92.59	121,040
LEGS	41-42	41.09	223,599
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	30-31	30.89	408,671
DRUMSTICKS	38-39	41.90	124,140
THIGHS	37-38	43.09	50,960
B/S THIGHS	87-88	93.33	72,000
WINGS (WHOLE)	112-113	114.87	130,160
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12	11.75	47,960
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	35-40	33.99	15,280
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	60-65	69.61	21,800

INCLUDES: NY CITY METRO. AREA, RI, NORTHERN NJ, MA, CT, PA (NORTHEAST OF HARRISBURG).

* TODAY'S NEGOTIATED SALES AS OF 11:30 A.M.

** WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICE OF ALL GRADES AND BRANDS OF PRODUCT SHIPPED, OR TO BE SHIPPED AS OF 1:30 P.M.

ESTIMATED SLAUGHTER OF BROILER-FRYERS (IN THOUSANDS)

	ESTIMATED		ACTUAL		AVG WTS		ACTUAL		AVG WTS	
	01/21	01/20	01/19	01/16	01/19	01/16	01/14	01/12		
ALA	3,777	3,922	2,576	4,377	4.57	5.07	3,853	5.28		
ARK	5,436	5,080	5,053	5,976	5.24	5.06	4,926	5.29		
DELMARVA	2,254	2,245	(A)	2,343	(A)	5.34	2,227	5.55		
KY-LA-TN	1,959	1,962	1,664	2,091	4.89	4.85	2,008	5.04		
MISS	3,001	3,079	(A)	2,933	(A)	5.41	3,037	5.46		
NC	2,473	2,459	1,576	2,660	6.38	6.23	2,414	6.34		
TEXAS	2,087	2,474	2,453	2,208	5.09	4.74	2,453	4.84		
TOTAL	20,987	21,221	15,323	22,588	5.19	5.22	20,918	5.38		
MON-WED	57,304	(B)					62,956	(B)		

(A) Not published to avoid disclosing individual operations

(B) Weekly cumulative for states listed above.

Broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for 21-Jan is estimated to be 31,399,000 up 0.0 percent from a week ago and up 6.9 percent from a year ago. (Last week 31,390,000; last year 29,367,000)

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (L.A. AREA) PROCESSED POULTRY

DELIVERED TO RETAILERS	RANGE
FRESH FRYERS	92-98
ROASTERS 4# & UP	81-95
HENS UNDER 5#	-
HENS OVER 5#	60-63
DUCKS	
RABBITS-WHOLE	
RABBITS-CUT UP	

SAN FRANCISCO PROCESSED POULTRY

DELIVERED TO RESTAURANTS AND INSTITUTIONS	
FRESH FRYERS	DRY PACK 102-104
	ICE PACK 100-101
ROASTERS 4# & UP	DRY PACK 89-105
	ICE PACK 105
HENS OVER 5#	DRY PACK 89
	ICE PACK 91
DUCKS	152-175

ESTIMATED U.S. LIVE POULTRY SLAUGHTER

UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION FOR WEEK ENDING 24-JAN-04

CLASS	CURRENT WEEK	PREVIOUS WEEK
	01/24/04 (1)	01/17/04
THOUSAND HEAD		
BRO-FRY	151,364 (2)	162,400
LT HENS	1,573	1,664
HVY HENS	1,268	1,322
CHECK TOTAL	154,205	165,386

(1)ESTIMATED

(2)The estimated number of broiler-fryers available for slaughter the week ending 24-Jan-04 is 157.4 million head compared to 145.9 million head slaughtered the same week last year. The estimated U.S. slaughter this week is 151.7 million head or 5.7 million more than estimated available. For week of 31-Jan-04 the estimated available is 158.4 million head.

WEEKLY COLD STORAGE HOLDINGS-SELECTED STGE CENTERS (INCL GOVT STOCKS) (IN THOUSANDS)

	PROCESSED TURKEY	PROCESSED POULTRY
	LBS	LBS
AM 01/19/04	131,988	43,827
AM 01/01/04	119,108	43,610
CHG	12,880	217
PCT CHG	11	0

COLD STORAGE MOVEMENT (IN THOUSANDS)

	PROCESSED TURKEYS			PROCESSED POULTRY		
	01/19/04	01/12/04	01/20/03	01/19/04	01/12/04	01/20/03
PACIFIC						
COAST	6,257	6,277	7,809	3,954	3,023	5,098
LOS						
ANGELES	421	437	1,388	1,805	1,639	3,969

CENTRAL MISCELLANEOUS POULTRY RTC HENS

READY-TO-COOK PRICES NEGOTIATED FOR DELIVERY TO FIRST RECEIVERS, U.S. GRADE A AND PLANT GRADE, 5 LBS. AND UP, FOR WEEK OF JANUARY 19, 2004

		RANGE
HENS	ICE PACKED (12 PER BOX)	58-65
	VACUUM PACKED (6-9 PER BOX)	66-76

HACKETTSTOWN POULTRY SALES

FOR 01/21/04

AI PAPERS REQUIRED TO SELL ALL OUT OF STATE POULTRY

	LOW	HIGH	AVG		LOW	HIGH	AVG
HEAVY FOWL lb.	.30	.65	.49	HEAVY FOWL ea.	-	-	-
LIGHT FOWL lb.	-	-	-	LIGHT FOWL ea.	-	-	-
MIXED FOWL lb.	.50	.60	.56	MIXED FOWL ea.	-	-	-
BANTAMS lb.	-	-	-	BANTAMS ea.	5.25	5.50	-
BROILERS lb.	-	.70	-	BROILERS ea.	-	-	-
ROASTERS lb.	-	-	-	ROASTERS ea.	-	-	-
FRYERS lb.	-	-	-	FRYERS ea.	-	-	-
CHICKS lb.	-	-	-	CHICKS ea.	-	-	-
PULLETS lb.	-	1.10	-	PULLETS ea.	-	-	-
BUNNIES lb.	-	-	-	BUNNIES ea.	-	-	-
ROOSTERS lb.	.30	1.25	.97	ROOSTERS ea.	-	-	-
GEESE lb.	-	-	-	GEESE ea.	-	-	-
TURKEYS lb.	-	-	-	TURKEYS ea.	-	-	-
DUCKS lb.	.70	1.45	1.31	DUCKS ea.	-	-	-
RABBITS lb.	1.00	1.35	1.20	RABBITS ea.	-	-	-
PIGEONS lb.	-	-	-	PIGEONS ea.	2.25	5.25	-
GUINEA FOWL lb.	-	-	-	GUINEA FOWL ea.	-	-	-
DUCKLINGS lb.	-	-	-	DUCKLINGS ea.	-	-	-
GUINEA KEETS ea.	-	-	-	CALL DUCKS ea.	-	-	-
SILKIES ea.	-	-	-	GOSLINGS ea.	-	-	-
GUINEA PIGS ea.	-	-	-	TURKEY POULTS ea.	-	-	-
CHUKARS ea.	-	-	-				
TOTAL COOPS	43						

MAJOR WHOLESALE MARKETS - Mexico City

Cents per pound for the week ending January 16, 2004

	Whole Chickens	Breasts	Legs w/ Thighs	Necks,Back &Wings	Livers/ Gizzards	Hens
RAYON						
Low	48.66	109.06	67.11	12.58	12.58	54.53
High	50.33	117.45	75.50	20.97	16.78	54.53
Mostly	49.50	117.45	75.50	20.97	16.78	54.53
SAN JUAN						
Low	48.66	109.06	67.11	12.58	12.58	54.53
High	50.33	117.45	75.50	16.78	16.78	54.53
Mostly	49.50	109.06	67.11	16.78	16.78	54.53
NEW SAN JUAN						
Low	48.66	109.06	67.11	12.58	12.58	54.53
High	50.33	117.45	75.50	20.97	16.78	54.53
Mostly	49.50	117.45	71.31	16.78	16.78	54.53
BECERRA						
Low	49.08	109.06	67.11	12.58	12.58	56.63
High	50.33	117.45	75.50	20.97	16.78	56.63
Mostly	49.50	117.45	75.50	20.97	16.78	56.63

DELMARVA Movement of ready-to-cook whole birds was good. Seller offerings were in close balance to well cleared. Live supplies were moderate; weights were mostly desirable to light. Processing schedules were moderate to moderately heavy. Less than trucklot asking prices were unchanged at 74 to 84 cents. Trade sentiment was fully steady to firm. In the parts complex, inquiry for breast items was good; supplies were generally no more than adequate, often short. Leg items were in good balance, occasionally short. Wings were about adequate to adequate.

*BROILER/FRYER CURRENT NEGOTIATED PRICES FOR IMMEDIATE DELIVERY INCLUDES MOSTLY MULTIPLE-DROP SHIPMENTS OF BRANDED AND WING TAGGED TO NEW YORK CITY FROM DELMARVA

	BRANDED U.S. GRADE A
RANGE	61-89
WEIGHTED AVERAGE	76.21
NO. OF BOXES	6,772

*7 of 7 plants reporting.

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